The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter December 29, 1916, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1102, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

AGITATE ! EDUCATE ! ORGANIZE !

VOL. 8. NO. 41. WASHINGTON D. C. SATURDAY, JANUARY 4. 1919. WHOLE NO. 405.

LABOR STANDARDS MUST BE PROTECTED

Richmond, Va., Jan. 4.—Secretary John R. Andrews, of the American Association for Labor Legislation, in an address on labor on the peace treaty at the twelfth annual meeting held jointly with the American Economic association, said:

"A positive movement regulating world activities is essential if we are to have effective and permanent democratic peace," declared Dr. Andrews, in commenting on the international treaties created by the Association for Labor Legislation between Europe and America. "As the burden of the war became more apparent to the group whose meetings I helped bear its cruel cost in lives and physical suffering, the position of labor in national and international politics is likely to assume increasing importance. Demands for protective labor legislation which shall create minimum standards of labor conditions, below which no employer shall be permitted to work, are likely to become more and more insistent. These developments will yet become increasingly important factors in the determination of peace terms.

"Whether the peace treaty itself, or by means of a later convention, is framed or arranged by the peace delegates, or otherwise, according to Dr. Andrews, I demand that the international standards of labor protection must be met.

"These have been giving special attention to the possibilities of sharp commercial competition in the future, and have considered dangers of undercutting and dumping of goods produced by cheap labor," he said, "will, of course, not overthrow the rare opportunity the reparation offered through international treaties. It is well that they should be considered and be permitted to demoralize the markets of other countries that are striving to uphold decent business standards.

"It is well, however, not to forget that one of the important factors in production is the human contingent. Labor is entitled to at least equal consideration with credit and raw materials in any plan for industrial and international peace. If, under the circumstances which have developed in the world war, an apparent effort is made to belittle the claims of labor, the legitimate claims of labor now more strongly organized economically, and to be rapidly increasing decree politically throughout the western world, there will be trouble ahead.

"Labor in Europe has learned, at its own cost and to the last degree of efficiency of its respective governments, that war endangers every liberty that has been attained by labor," he concluded. "Even in this country, where we had been relatively free from the experience of Europe, it was only by the most energetic and united efforts that the standard labor standards were for the most part maintained during our eighteen months' participation in the struggle.

"Does this not suggest that if the workers of many industrial nations come to believe that participation in the maintenance of international protective labor standards, their interests will be best served by militant work opposed to the plunging of the world into war. We can't go back. We should, and must, go forward."

LABOR CAMPAIGN FOR PEACE LEAGUE

London, England, Jan. 4.—The Trade Union congress and the Labor party have jointly decided to open a great public campaign to advocate the establishment of a league of nations as an integral part of the peace settlement.

The campaign is to be inaugurated in London. Other demonstrations will be held simultaneously in Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle, Cardiff, Leeds and Bristol on Sunday, January 5, when addresses will be delivered by the Trades Union congress parliamentary committee and the executive of the Labor party, conference with him will therefore, we have worked for the idea of almost universal acceptance of the league of nations as the only means of preventing future wars, and calls upon the British delegates to the peace congress to make the definite establishment of the league of nations one of the foremost clauses in the treaty of peace."

INCREASE FOR R. R. WORKERS

Washington, Jan. 4.—An increase of 12 cents an hour for all telegraphers, telephone operators, agents, agent-telegraphers towermen, towermen-telegraphers, train dispatchers, block operators and staffmen, effective as of January 1, 1918, has been ordered by Director General of Railroads McAdoo on all railroads under federal control.

The new order also provides time and a half pay for overtime, an eight-hour day and elimination of vacations with pay.

A revision of the method of computing wages resulting in a higher hourly basis of compensation, is also set forth in the order.

An additional 2 cents an hour in lieu of vacations is also provided. A minimum rate of 47 cents an hour is established.

Mr. McAdoo in announcing the award, said that he had given especial consideration to the problem of reduction of Sunday and holiday work, and hoped to see elimination of such work in the future.

"This order," he says, "will in it-self go far toward eliminating Sunday and holiday work wherever practicable, and toward reducing such work generally, and will be followed in time to the fewest number of hours. This will result from the fact that hereafter all such work will be paid on an hourly basis instead of on a monthly basis, as has been true in the past to a considerable extent.

"I propose to supplement this action by definite orders that a study must be made for the purpose of reducing Sunday work to the lowest number practicable, and, where it cannot be eliminated, to the smallest it to the fewest number of hours."

WAGE AVERAGE INCREASED.

Madison, Wis., Jan. 4.—Seventy-seven per cent of all injured workmen entitled to receive awards under the compensation act during the first half of 1918 earned more than $15.00 per week, the maximum wage for computing compensation under the Wisconsin law, the state industrial commission has found. This is set out in a table which has recently been prepared by the statistical department of the Industrial commission.

This table shows clearly that there has been a marked increase in the wages of workmen in the State, as but only 26.7 per cent of all injured workmen earned more than $15 in the first half of 1915, wages have so increased that only 22 per cent of all injured have been included in the average weekly wage of injured workmen whose cases were settled under the compensation act, and in the first half of 1915, $13.41 in the second half of 1915, $13.31 in the first half of 1916, $14.43 in the second half of 1916, $15.20 in the first half of 1917, $17.64 in the second half of 1917, and $17.64 in the first half of 1918. In this last period the largest group of injured workmen were those receiving $18 per week, while in 1915 the largest group was that of workmen receiving $11.08 per week.

HIS VISIT NO SMALL HONOR.

London, Jan. 4.—"President Wilson represents the world's greatest civilized community." the Manchester Guardian said in commenting on the visit of the American executive to England.

"President Wilson's visit is no small honor," the paper declared, "as representing the world's greatest civilized community. He stands for the might of the United States. For practical purpose which is stronger than armies. His supreme object is the moral purpose of turning the victory to the best account.

"The largest and truest return for his aid to the alliance by helping to a good fighter and he is one of the finest fighters we have with him."

ADDED ANOTHER LINK.

Warrenville, S. C., Jan. 4.—The textile workers here have received a charter from the United Textile Workers for a new organization to be known as Local No. 1334. This forms another link in the chain of textile mills in the "Piedmont Section," which is expected to take care of the prospects of organizing the entire valley.

TEXTILERS FORM UNION.

New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, Jan. 4.—A local union No. 1334 of the United Textile Workers has been formed with a large membership enrolled. The need of such action has been apparent for some time past but the attempts to organize started a few weeks since brought the result indicated.

RECOMMEND 6-HOUR DAY.

Newcastle, England, Jan. 4.—As a result of a conference between representatives of miners and employers in the iron and steel trade, the employers have agreed to recommend to their associates the concession of an eight-hour day.

NEW POLISHERS' UNION.

Michigan City, Ind., Jan. 4.—Metal Polishers' union No. 138 has been organized here which includes a large number of the workers in the polishing industry.

CONTENTMENT IS STAGNATION OF PROGRESS.

New York, Jan. 4.—At a reconstruction conference called to consider industrial relations and kindred subjects now prominently in the public mind, attended by representatives of various large interests as well as men who are students of social and economic problems, President Samuel Gompers, of America Federation of Labor, gave voice to the following views based upon the grave dangers confronting the American people:

"To get the men to respond to the call to arms in defense of our republic and our institutions required much effort, but it was not difficult of accomplishment. To persuade our civilian population to do service in behalf of and for the men at the fighting front was difficult, but not so difficult, as are the problems before us now.

"I am not one who believes that the wisest and best condition of the people is what is generally understood by contentment. Contentment, in my way of thinking, is stagnation, the healthy discontent is the awakening of the aspiration for better things. It is essential today that the people of our country shall be alert to all that is transpiring and all that is happening. Thus far we have lived our lives alone and worked out our own destinies along the line of the policies we believed to be the best for us. We have, after winning the war for or helping to win the war, we are to have unprecedented power and attitude where a treaty of peace is to be formulated.

"The representatives of no one government can have the control-ling voice. In this regard, I never fail to look upon the other side of the shield. Hoping for the best, I am not unmindful of the peril. I am to accomplish the right, or to help accomplish the right, I know that the rights of the weak as well as of right. The democratic legislation secured by the congress of the United States, by the several states of our union, by our municipalities, granting the right of free thought and action of a voluntary character, the understanding of what here we mean by sovereignty of citizenship and or the man and the woman, is by no means to be paralleled by any other country on the face of the globe—I appealed to the American people with regard to their station in life, to see to it, to supervise, to be vigilant, lest around the peace table there are purloined from us, ingrafted under very many of the liberties and the freedom of our people.

"The treaty made by the United States with any other country or group of countries, that treaty being ratified by the senate of the United States, becomes the supreme law of the land, and any law upon the statute books that is in conflict with the terms of that treaty being inoperative and ineffective and null. We don't want to have made in vain all the sacrifice of our boys. We don't want to have that flesh of our flesh and blood of our blood given in vain, the sacrifice given, and all the sacrifice made, in vain, and to have to make the fight for our liberties all over again. The people in their homes. While our boys were fighting and our men and women were working here to maintain freedom and democracy abroad, we ought to be alert now to see to it that we are not going to lose our liberty and democracy at home.

"I am impressed particularly with the appeal to the conscience, to the judgment, to the ideals, to the sentiments of mankind under very many nations. You cannot get freedom, nor practice freedom, on empty stomachs. The hungry men may engage in a riot, may engage in a revolt, but of course is never of a constructive character. Hungry stomachs do not make reasoning brains. It is necessary to maintain the standards of life of the people, and any law upon the statute books that is in conflict with the terms of that treaty being inoperative and ineffective and null. We don't want to have made in vain all the sacrifice of our boys. We don't want to have that flesh of our flesh and blood of our blood given in vain, the sacrifice given, and all the sacrifice made, in vain, and to have to make the fight for our liberties all over again. The people in their homes. While our boys were fighting and our men and women were working here to maintain freedom and democracy abroad, we ought to be alert now to see to it that we are not going to lose our liberty and democracy at home.

"I am impressed particularly with

$100,000,000 BLOOD MONEY PAID TO TRUST

New York, Jan. 4.—Following the refusal of the federal food board to give further consideration to the milk price fight in New York, Mayor Hylan issued a statement in which he praised the district attorney for his efforts in the milk investigation now in progress, and asserted that the price of milk could be materially reduced.

"When we find men combining to extort blood money at the expense of little children," the mayor said, "then it is time for public officials to promptly pursue these culprits to the end that the violators of the law pay the penalty, the price of milk be reduced and the lives of little children saved."

In a letter which Mayor Hylan wrote to the district attorney on December 18 he asserted that the producers and distributors' milk trust has arbitrarily taxed the people of New York city in the past year a total of $100,000,000 within two years," and that "thousands of children, through the lack of nourishment, have died, because their parents could not provide sufficient milk for the requirement of the exhorbitant prices." Mayor Hylan asserted in the letter that he knew that any legislation he might desire to "put and end to this extortion" would have the approval of Governelect Smith.

NEGROES TO STAY.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Representatives of the department of labor employment service have found that many thousands of the negroes who migrated from southern states to the north and west during the war will not return to their former homes, it was announced today by Secretary Wilson. Many of these negroes were drafted into the army, the younger negroes were drafted into the army, the older ones left the south for the busier industrial centers of the country, department at increased wages.

The cotton farmers of the south have not started any organized movement to get the negroes back, but some committees have been prohibiting labor agents from soliciting.

ITS USUAL DECEPTION.

New York, Jan. 4.—The relation that the war and peace prices expected to become operative with the first of the year, but which have already gone into effect in many instances, bear to the prices of other years, has been worked out by Dow, Jones & Co., and some interesting comparisons are the result. It is shown, for the largest group of injured workmen were those receiving $18 per week, while in 1915 the largest group was that of workmen receiving $11.08 per week.

ENFORCE SEAMAN ACT; URGES SHIP BUILDING

Washington, Jan. 4.—"Our capacity for building ships now is double that of the entire world combined," Senator Fletcher told the senate. "This is another illustration of the first importance." The ravages of the submarines must be offset. Congress must make sure that the shipbuilding programme is carried out. There should be no sparing of men or money."

In discussing the question further, he said: "It is of the first importance that to build up a great merchant marine. It can be done, by the proper legislation and enforcing the seamin's act, some features of which are to be constitutional by the supreme court in a recent decision. He warmly upheld the La Follette bill and said American vessels pay the highest wages to seamen. He said several important provisions of the La Follette act never have been permitted to function. He said he had told Mr. Fletcher, "American seamen were put on a footing of equality with those of other nations of the world. Questions of this kind should be settled by international law, not by freedom of the seas. They are quite as important as many other problems associated with that subject."

TO TAKE FARM CENSUS.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The department of labor has instructed the director of the inspection and investigation service to begin preliminary work to prepare as rapidly as possible a list of the unimproved agricultural public lands, by states, counties, townships, nearest market, and postoffice, and approximate acreage of each character of soil; also to show separately timber lands, and such timber as may be suitable for cutting into ties in the shape of fallen timber which can be readily removed. It is the first clerical step toward the practical opening of these lands to the returning soldiers and sailors and settle on these lands.

LABOR SUPPLY REDUCED.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Just as the war was claiming its two-year toll of man's skill in killing his kind—with the aid of science—the influenza epidemic came along, and in spite of evidence made plain look like the present. Facts as to the epidemic are not complete, but it is estimated that within the last six months at least 1,000,000 have died from the disease. And it still rages in many lands.

In twelve months the United States army was announced at the recent annual meeting of the American Public Health association in Chicago.

HOW LIVING INCREASED.

New York, Jan. 4.—The cost of living in New York State has increased 70 per cent since 1914, according to figures made public last night by the commission appointed by the governor. The figures, taken from records of actual purchases by women, showed an average weekly budget of $14.66, including room and board, $6.07, which in 1914 was $8. Women's clothing increased 112 per cent; food, 65 per cent; fuel and light, 75 per cent, and incidentals, 62 per cent.

MINES YIELD TEN BILLIONS.

Washington, Jan. 4.—More than $10,000,000,000 worth of minerals were mined in the United States in 1917 and 1918, according to preliminary estimates for the year, combined with final figures for 1917, made by the geological survey. The total for last year was announced at $5,000,000. as against $5,000,000 the year before and $5,213,972,000 in 1916.

The output of metallic products, including pig iron, copper, ferro-alloys, lead, zinc, gold, silver and aluminum was valued at nearly $2,000,000,000.

PROBABLE ADJUSTMENT.

Schenectady, N. Y., Jan. 4.—An effort is being made to secure an adjustment of the strife of 20,000 workers at the plant here of the General Electric company. The men have been out in sympathy with workers at the Erie plant or the same company since December 18, 1918. Negotiations have been arranged between the general manager and representatives of the striking workers.

NAVAL UNIFORMS AT COST.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Congress has passed a bill authorizing the government to sell uniforms and other equipment to naval officers at cost.

CURRENCY INFLATION BRING HIGH PRICES

Richmond, Va., Jan. 4.—High prices will befall until the expansion of currency and credit resulting from the financing of the war is corrected, Secretary of the treasury Glass told the annual convention of the American Bankers' association here today.

"Gold will not recover its last purchasing power until prices decline," Mr. Miller said. "Financial, credit and commercial disorders have been thrown into confusion by reason of the rise in prices will not be straightened out until the price situation is rectified. But the price situation will not be rectified until the expansion of our currency and credit attributable to the buying of war securities and to excessive clearings, and the volume of credit and currency based thereon, is drastically reduced to a normal economic volume—that is to say, a volume corresponding to the needs of industry and trade for the production and exchange of goods at normal values."

PROPOSED MEMORIAL.

Clarksburg, W. Va., Jan. 4.—Although no active campaign has yet been launched, it is said that several West Virginia of erecting some kind of a memorial for coal miners who died while "Digging this coal at home while their brothers fell on the battlefields of France." It is pointed out by adherents of the plan that deaths of miners, crushed beneath the falling slate while digging coal in the engines in the great munition plants right here in part has been as less glorious than those of the boys who died for us.

While every precaution possible was taken by coal operators to make their mines safe for the men who work in the territory being developed at high speed to relieve the fuel shortage, mines could not be made as safe as in peace times, when there was no sacrificing and only a few shell and powder plants to be supplied. The coal diggers were cognizant of this fact, but they did not hesitate for one minute; they worked overtime and on holidays.

WAGE INCREASE GRANTED.

Washington, Jan. 4.—An award of the umpire of the war labor board in the case of Holbrook union No. 81 vs. iron foundry owners of Elizabeth, N. J., which was jointly submitted for the determination of hours of labor, wages, and rates of pay for overtime, Sundays and holidays to in the joint submission as a "wage dispute," is as follows:

"The eight hour day is hereby to be paid members of the above named local union and the $5.25 per day of eight hours. Eight hours shall constitute a day's work. Overtime in excess of eight hours shall be paid for at the rate of $1.68 per hour. Work performed on Sundays and holidays shall be paid for at the rate of $1.44 per hour.

"This award to take effect as of December 7, 1918, and shall continue in force until December 31, 1918."

GREAT WEALTH INCREASE.

New York, Jan. 4.—The following illuminating facts are worthy of careful study and analysation. The stupendous growth during the beginning of the war is marvelous. The quarterly report of U. S. Steel reads:

"Our national wealth has grown from probably less than a billion at the beginning of the last century to seven billions at the middle of the last decade and to nearly 190 billions at the beginning of the war and probably, according to the estimate of impartial foreign authority, to 250 billions at the end of the war.

Never in the history of civilized progress has there been a comparable example of prosperous growth self-produced and inflowing."

MINERS SEEKING WORK.

East St. Louis, Ill., Jan. 4.—A mass meeting of coal miners has been called here to discuss the question of work and draft a resolution to present to the government, asking that it take steps to relieve the coal mining situation in the hope of creating work for thousands of miners who are now practically idle. This condition started the day the armistice was signed, when 10,000 coal miners have left Belleville the past week on account of the mines' inability to secure work. The mines in operation are working half time.

LEATHER COUNCIL FORMED.

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—A Leather Trades council has been organized, composed of tanners, trunk, bag and suitcase workers, shoe repairers, glove workers and saddlery workers to take charge of the problems concerning the leather trades.

PIG-HEADED CONDUCT OF SELFISH CAPITALIST

Boston, Mass., Jan. 4.—In addressing a meeting of the members of the Associated Industries on a plan to produce industrial peace, at the Copley Plaza, Galen Starr Ross, of New York, representing the chamber of commerce of the United States, declared that the time is ripe for a big constructive campaign of education on the part of industry to bring the truths of industrial peace to the hearts of every individual, whether he be boss or hand, on the shop floor or on the road as part of the sales machinery. These truths he defined as the truths about the principles and forces necessary to the scientific conduct of modern business, namely, earnings for the stockholders or income for the worker."

"The basic considerations of today between labor and capital," he declared, "are reasons from the pig-headed conduct in the past on the part of reactionary, selfishly-inspired capitalistic interests, which have made that the human element would make a fair division of earnings impossible.

He said that in teaching the fundamental principles of co-operation and the requirements of scientific production, there should be regular meetings to address by men of the shop, trained for the purpose.

PRINTERS GET INCREASES.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 4.—Negotiations between representatives of Typographical union No. 8 and the Publishers' association resulted in an increase of $3 per week, becoming effective on January 1, 1919. The increase provides $25 a week for night workers on the St. Louis daily papers, $27 a week for day men who formerly got $23.50, and $30 a week for those under the contract which expires in 1922. About 400 men are affected.

An increase from $23 to $27.50 a week has been offered to job printers by the Allied Printing Trades council, which governs the job printers. The offer has been taken under advisement by a special committee that has been appointed.

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—According to an agreement between the Franklin Printing Trade association and the typographical union, a flat raise in wages of $2 per week for job printers became effective on January 1, making the basic wage $30 per week.

PRECEDENT DON'T APPEAL.

London, England, Jan. 4.—In a speech in the city council Premier Lloyd George announced that he does not consider precedent as binding.

"Previous governments referred to the president's visit here as a precedent," he said. "In this time we have to make new precedents."

"And, after all, the breaking of precedents, though this may sound strange doctrine in England, is the very foundation of liberty. The keeness of precedent is sometimes a very good thing, but sometimes it is another portion of his speech the president indicated that he has not the slightest intention of getting out of the beaten paths in their efforts to improve conditions. He said:

"I am perfectly aware that I have got to deal with the most conservative element in the human race. I am sometimes, in fact, forced to resort to tactics, in order to keep these instincts in restraint."

LABOR SURPLUS IN SIGHT.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Within the next few months, according to the officials of the United States employment service, 175,000 soldiers, sailors and marines will be seeking employment in Pennsylvania. Despite the rapid rate with which industry is working its way from a war to peace basis, it is felt that there is certain to be a labor surplus in some sections, unless the government's public works plan is put into effect.

Representatives of the United States employment service have been stationed in all demobilization camps in this country to acquaint the soldiers with the facilities established for assisting them to obtain suitable employment after they leave camp.

DEMAND AN INCREASE.

Houston, Tex., Jan. 4.—Between 200 and 400 members of the "Steamfitters' and Helpers' committee", Pattern Makers' and Boiler Makers' unions walked out on a strike, demanding an increase in their wage scales. As a result, a score of machine shops and foundries are affected and much government work is tied up. The machinists' union has had a wage scale of 70 cents an hour, the blacksmiths 70 cents and helpers and apprentices 60 cents. The blacksmiths and machinists are now getting 72 1-2 cents an hour and boiler makers are getting 80 cents an hour.

STRIKE FOR AN INCREASE.

Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 4.—Members of Machinists' union No. 235 struck to enforce an increase at the Kent-Owens Machine company. The old scale having expired more than a month ago, which called for 55 cents per hour, a new one was presented, demanding 75 cents. Not having received any intimation as to what determination the firm had arrived at, action was taken to force the increase next week. Over 300 men are affected.

OPPONENT ACCEPTS UNION'S WAGE SCALE

Philadelphia, Jan. 4.—The non-union rapid transit company has entered into a bargaining scheme with its employes, which provides that wages shall be equal to the average of those paid motormen, conductors and other employes in Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo and Cleveland.

The humorous feature of the agreement is that these cities are 100 per cent organized by the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes. The company refuses to recognize the bona fide union but accepts standards that trade unionists establish.

Arbitration proceedings, along the line of John D. Rockefeller's "union," are provided and a system of insurance and sick benefits are worked out. Each employe is insured for $1,000 and is paid $1.50 a day for 100 days in a year for illness after the first eight days. The employe pays $12 a year for these benefits and the company pays $120,000 a year, which averages about $12 each for the 10,000 men.

A pension of $40 a month is guaranteed to all employes who have reached the age of 65 and who have been in the company's employ 25 years.

There is not much danger, however, of men losing this pension because of strikes for the organized street car men in the four cities named have will take all the chances in setting wages, and feel the usual transitory ups and downs of reconstruction the same as it stood during the war. It is the hope for a steady basis for the retention of its dearly-bought measure of industrial freedom.

"There shall be no backward step. Labor is still alert and it will brook no backward movement," it declares.

"Notice of this has already been given. Labor has not given up the thought to seize upon the days of demobilization and what they hoped would be a return to the old order as the occasion to reduce wages and possibly increase hours of labor.

"The march of our progress will be onward, and onward, never ceasing."

This is the battle cry emerging, for planning constructive campaigns for the advancement of the cause of those who toil.

"We who have remained at home owe it to our fellowmen heroes that conditions shall be improved when they go back to their employment."

SEAMEN GET INCREASE.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Masters of vessels owned or requisitioned by the United States shipping board, plying between the United States and foreign ports, beginning January 1, will receive from $225 to $275 a month, depending on the size of the ship.

Chief engineers will receive from $175 to $200 per month and first assistant engineers from $125 to $150 and third officers and third assistant engineers $112.50 to $125 per month.

The members of the board want to get the pay to apply to all vessels in the American merchant marine, whether controlled by the shipping board or not, but the matter was compromised so as not to injure private owners to meet the new scale. The new pay is to be in addition to that paid in this or any other country. But it is contended that the high cost of living makes the wage an advance on compensation for mariners.

MINIMUM WAGE $13.50

Victoria, British Columbia, Jan. 4.—The provincial board which fixed the minimum wage board the union laundry workers were able to convince its members that the $13.50 minimum wage for women workers in laundries fixed by the board was too low. The board reconsidered the case, different organizations the board decided to increase the wage to not less than 28 1-8 cents per hour, nor less than $12.50 per week for all females under 18 years of age working in laundries in the province.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 4.—The Kentucky Manufacturers association has addressed a circular letter to every manufacturer in the state, urging asking them to take a more active part in the political affairs, particularly during the primary and state elections next year, declaring that matters considerable will depend on the placing of competent men in every office to be filled. The letter points out that the cause of industry and good citizenship and business to take a constructive interest in the selection of candidates for political office.

GET WAGE INCREASE.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 4.—Furniture Drivers' union has secured an agreement in October to readjust its wage scale. Negotiations were successfully terminated and the result follows: The chauffeurs' scale was increased from $25 to $28 per week. The drivers were increased from $1.60 per day to $2.50, while the helpers' scale was increased from $1.50 per day to $2.50. While the cutrock drivers got an increase from $17 to $21 per week.

ORGANIZE NEW UNION.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 4.—The colored men employed by the Union Pacific railroad in the city formed Protective Labor and Cheshers' union No. 16626, American Federation of Labor.

JUDICIAL AUTOCRAT.

New York, Jan. 4.—Ruling that a jury award of $5,750 was excessive for the life of a 6-year-old boy killed by a motor truck, the appellate division of the supreme court ordered a new trial unless the boy's father agreed to accept a payment of $2,000.

The decision sustained the argument of the truck company's counsel that since the child never had attended school "he was not worth a cent to any one, a medical man for him," the verdict was excessive. The jury had fixed the boy's economic value at $10,000.

UNIONS FEDERATE.

Salt Lake, Utah, Jan. 4.—The railroad shopmen's union, No. 24777 has been federated into the following organizations: Boilermakers, blacksmiths, electrical workers, sheet metal workers and machinists.

MOTION PLAYERS UNITE.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 4.—Motion Picture Players' union, No. 18777 has been organized here, being the first union of motion picture players organized in America. It has been granted a charter from the American Federation of Labor.

SEAMEN GET INCREASE.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Masters of vessels owned or requisitioned by the United States shipping board, plying between the United States and foreign ports, beginning January 1, will receive from $225 to $275 a month, depending on the size of the ship.

Chief engineers will receive from $175 to $200 per month and first assistant engineers from $125 to $150 and third officers and third assistant engineers $112.50 to $125 per month.

The members of the board want to get the pay to apply to all vessels in the American merchant marine, whether controlled by the shipping board or not, but the matter was compromised so as not to injure private owners to meet the new scale. The new pay is to be in addition to that paid in this or any other country. But it is contended that the high cost of living makes the wage an advance on compensation for mariners.

MINIMUM WAGE $13.50

Victoria, British Columbia, Jan. 4.—The provincial board which fixed the minimum wage board the union laundry workers were able to convince its members that the $13.50 minimum wage for women workers in laundries fixed by the board was too low. The board reconsidered the case, different organizations the board decided to increase the wage to not less than 28 1-8 cents per hour, nor less than $12.50 per week for all females under 18 years of age working in laundries in the province.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 4.—The Kentucky Manufacturers association has addressed a circular letter to every manufacturer in the state, urging asking them to take a more active part in the political affairs, particularly during the primary and state elections next year, declaring that matters considerable will depend on the placing of competent men in every office to be filled. The letter points out that the cause of industry and good citizenship and business to take a constructive interest in the selection of candidates for political office.

GET WAGE INCREASE.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 4.—Furniture Drivers' union has secured an agreement in October to readjust its wage scale. Negotiations were successfully terminated and the result follows: The chauffeurs' scale was increased from $25 to $28 per week. The drivers were increased from $1.60 per day to $2.50, while the helpers' scale was increased from $1.50 per day to $2.50. While the cutrock drivers got an increase from $17 to $21 per week.

ORGANIZE NEW UNION.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 4.—The colored men employed by the Union Pacific railroad in the city formed Protective Labor and Cheshers' union No. 16626, American Federation of Labor.

JUDICIAL AUTOCRAT.

New York, Jan. 4.—Ruling that a jury award of $5,750 was excessive for the life of a 6-year-old boy killed by a motor truck, the appellate division of the supreme court ordered a new trial unless the boy's father agreed to accept a payment of $2,000.

The decision sustained the argument of the truck company's counsel that since the child never had attended school "he was not worth a cent to any one, a medical man for him," the verdict was excessive. The jury had fixed the boy's economic value at $10,000.

UNIONS FEDERATE.

Salt Lake, Utah, Jan. 4.—The railroad shopmen's union, No. 24777 has been federated into the following organizations: Boilermakers, blacksmiths, electrical workers, sheet metal workers and machinists.

MOTION PLAYERS UNITE.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 4.—Motion Picture Players' union, No. 18777 has been organized here, being the first union of motion picture players organized in America. It has been granted a charter from the American Federation of Labor.

LABOR'S ONWARD MARCH MUST NOT BE HALTED

Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 4.—"Labor has gained great concessions during the war. No one doubt this, but there is no justification to attribute to most achievement to conditions brought about by the war," says the Chronicle.

"It is true that organized labor has been alert to its rights and to its interests; that it has taken advantage of opportunities to see that the workers received wages somewhat commensurate with their extraordinary efforts toward greater efficiency for the emergencies arising from war necessities.

But it also true that a vigorous opposition was entered at every point where employers sought to break down the safeguards the workers had been able to build up during years of struggle.

"The enviable position of the organized workers in America as regards wages, hours, safety appliances and sanitary surroundings is not the result of the war, but was won as a result of widespread war prosperity.

"Whatever the measure of success achieved, it has been the result of a background of long years of struggle on the part of organized labor.

"It has been pointed out that reasonable care is needed to determine the position of labor. This they shall not do.

"Labor in the hour for labor to stand firm to its position of unwavering loyalty to all the ideals of the democratic during the days of reconstruction the same as it stood during the war. It is the hour for labor to insist on the retention of its dearly-bought measure of industrial freedom.

"There shall be no backward step. Labor is still alert and it will brook no backward movement," it declares.

"Notice of this has already been given. Labor has not given up the thought to seize upon the days of demobilization and what they hoped would be a return to the old order as the occasion to reduce wages and possibly increase hours of labor.

"The march of our progress will be onward, and onward, never ceasing."

This is the battle cry emerging, for planning constructive campaigns for the advancement of the cause of those who toil.

"We who have remained at home owe it to our fellowmen heroes that conditions shall be improved when they go back to their employment."

SEAMEN GET INCREASE.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Masters of vessels owned or requisitioned by the United States shipping board, plying between the United States and foreign ports, beginning January 1, will receive from $225 to $275 a month, depending on the size of the ship.

Chief engineers will receive from $175 to $200 per month and first assistant engineers from $125 to $150 and third officers and third assistant engineers $112.50 to $125 per month.

The members of the board want to get the pay to apply to all vessels in the American merchant marine, whether controlled by the shipping board or not, but the matter was compromised so as not to injure private owners to meet the new scale. The new pay is to be in addition to that paid in this or any other country. But it is contended that the high cost of living makes the wage an advance on compensation for mariners.

MINIMUM WAGE $13.50

Victoria, British Columbia, Jan. 4.—The provincial board which fixed the minimum wage board the union laundry workers were able to convince its members that the $13.50 minimum wage for women workers in laundries fixed by the board was too low. The board reconsidered the case, different organizations the board decided to increase the wage to not less than 28 1-8 cents per hour, nor less than $12.50 per week for all females under 18 years of age working in laundries in the province.

FIREMEN ORGANIZE.

North Platte, Neb., Jan. 4.—Employes of the Union Pacific railroad in this city have formed a federal union and received a charter from the International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen.